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Newsmen Give Views On CIA-Media Links

Associated Press

Three veteran reporters told the Senate Intelligence Committee yesterday that in drafting laws to govern activities of U.S. intelligence agencies, it should not attempt to regulate the news media.

Agreeing that the relationship between news organizations and such agencies as the Central Intelligence Agency was a "gray area," the senators conceded they faced great difficulty in trying to write any legislation establishing fixed rules and standards.

"It's a delicate line," said Sen. Birch Bayh (D-Ind.), chairman.

The Senate panel sought the newsmen's views on its proposed draft of a charter aimed at preventing abuses by U.S. intelligence agencies.

The three were Nicholas Daniloff, a Capitol Hill reporter for United Press International; Jack Nelson, Washington bureau chief of the Los Angeles Times, and Daniel Schoor, former CBS reporter.